

**Written Testimony of John Murphy, Connecticut Citizens Action Group,
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Committee on Environment,
March 7, 2012.**

Testimony in Support of:

**HB 5116, AN ACT REQUIRING THE LABELING OF FOOD PACKAGING THAT
CONTAINS BISPHENOL-A**

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and honorable members of the Environment,

My name is John Murphy and I work for the Connecticut Citizens Action Group (CCAG).

CCAG strongly supports HB 5116. We believe that the citizens of Connecticut have a right to know what is in their food. During these difficult economic times, more and more people rely on canned foods to feed their families. Unfortunately, we know that BPA is used to make the epoxy resin lining of aluminum cans. BPA leaches out of food packaging into the food and beverages. BPA from food packaging is the major source of exposure to this harmful chemical.

BPA is an endocrine-disruptor that mimics and disrupts our bodies' natural hormones. Scientific research links BPA exposure to breast and prostate cancers, reproductive disorders, learning and behavioral disorders, insulin-resistance, diabetes and obesity.

Requiring a label on food packaging is a simple step to help Connecticut citizens make healthier choices. There are alternatives to BPA in food packaging like tetra-packs and some newer plant-based materials that can be used in aluminum cans. Connecticut has been a leader in reducing our exposure to BPA. HB 5116 is another great step forward. We have a right to know what is in our food!

Thank you for this opportunity and I urge you to support HB 5116.

Sincerely,

John Murphy